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A method for accessing a video stream
comprising:
when a first application requests video,
initializing a video stream using a video server; and
if the first application crashes, maintaining
access to the video stream for a second application
through the video server.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1 including detecting 2 when the first application crashes.
 - 3. The method of claim 2 wherein detecting when the first application crashes includes detecting when the first application crashes by monitoring an exception handler.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 including shutting down 2 the video stack when a crash is detected.
- 5. The method of laim 1 including shutting down a television capture card when a crash is detected.
 - 6. The method of claim 1, wherein maintaining access to the video stream includes operating said video stream in a separate address space from the first application.

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1	7.	The method of	claim 1 wherein when a crash is
2	detected,	directing the	server to release the video
3	stack.		

- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein maintaining access to the video stream includes using software in the second application for accessing said server and software in said server for accessing the video stack.
 - 9. A method for accessing a television video stream comprising:

connecting an application needing video services to a television server using a window which operates in a separate address space from the application;

monitoring to determine if the application crashes while receiving the video stream; and when the application crashes, automatically shutting down a video stack and a video capture card.

- 1 10. The method of claim 9 including detecting 2 when the application crashes by monitoring an exception 3 handler.
- 1 11. The method of claim 9 wherein when a crash is 2 detected, directing the television server to release 3 the video stack.
 - 12. The method of claim 9 including operating a first window in the application for accessing the

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television server and a second window in said server 3 for accessing the video stack. An article comprising a medium for storing instructions for causing a computer to: 2 3 when a first application requests video, initialize a video stream using a video server; and 4 5 if the Kirst application crashes, maintain 6 access to the vided stream for a second application through the video server. 7 The article of claim 12 including 1 14. instructions for causing the computer to detect when 2 the first application crashes. 3 The article of claim 14 further including 2 instructions for causing the computer to detect when 3 the first application crashes by monitoring an exception handler. 4 The article of claim 13 including 1 instructions for causing the computer to shut down a 2 3 video stack when a crash is detected. The article of claim 13 including 1 instructions for causing the computer to shut down a television capture card when a crash is detected. 3

The article of claim 13 including

instructions for causing the computer to operate said

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handl#r.

video stream in a separate address space from the 3 4 application. The article of claim 1/3 including 1 instructions for causing the computer to direct the 2 3 television server to release # video stack when a crash 4 is detected. The article of claim 13 including 1 instructions for causing the computer to operate a 2 first window in the applacation for accessing the television server and a second window in said server for accessing a video stack. An article comprising a medium for storing 1 instructions for causing a computer to: 2 connect an application needing video services 3 to a television/server using a window which operated in 4 a separate add tess space from the application; 5 6 monitor to determine if the application 7 crashes while receiving a video stream; and when the application crashes, automatically 8 9 shut down a video stack and a video capture card.

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The article of claim 21 including

instructions for causing the computer to detect when the application crashes by monitoring an exception

1	23. The article of claim 21 including			
2	instructions for causing the computer to direct the			
3	television server to release the video stack when a			
4	crash is detected.			
1	24. The article of claim 21 including			
2	instructions for causing the computer to operate a			
3	first window in the application for accessing the			
4	server and a second window in said server for accessing			
5	the video stream.			
1	25. A computer system comprising:			
2	a processor			
3	a television tuner card coupled to a			
4	processor;			
5	a memory coupled to said processor storing			
6	programs which cause a computer to:			
7	connect an application needing video service			
8	to a television server using a window which operates in			
9	a separate address space from the application;			
LO	monitor to determine if the application			
L1	crashes while receiving the video stream; and			
L2	when the application crashes, automatically			
3	shut down a widee stack and the widee conture gard			